



State Senator
VALDE GARCIA
R-26th Senate District



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Committees: Banking and Financial Institutions (Chair); Finance; Financial Services; Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs; Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

Biography: Republican, of St. Johns; born November 27, 1958, at St. Johns; graduate, Laingsburg Christian School, Laingsburg, Michigan, 1977, and Cedarville College, Cedarville, Ohio; married to Karla; two children: Kristy and Brian; member, First Baptist Church of St. Johns; officer, U.S. Army, served 9 years, honorably discharged in 1990; recalled to active duty in 1991 for Operation Desert Storm, and served during the Persian Gulf War as company commander of an infantry training company, Fort Benning, Georgia; has 20 years of military service and is now a lieutenant colonel in the Michigan Army National Guard; former legislative assistant to State Senator Harmon Cropsey, administrative assistant to State Senator Doug Carl, and chief of staff for State Senator Mike Rogers; former teacher at Laingsburg Christian School, and territory manager for the National Federation of Independent Business; member, St. Johns Rotary Club; recipient, Outstanding Young American award, 1987; elected to the House of Representatives, 1998; elected to the State Senate, March 20, 2001, in special election; first Hispanic ever elected to the Senate.

